

Abstract Of The Disclosure

5       A hardware configuration and methodology for serializing or partially  
serializing WRITE requests directed to a unified data set are subsequently distributed to one  
or more remote arrays containing a corresponding mirror unified data set. For each unified  
data set, one of the local disk arrays over which the unified data set is distributed is selected  
as a supervisor disk array, and a unified sequence number component is included within that  
supervisor disk array. WRITE requests generated by a local array to mirror unified data set  
10   data to a mirror unified data set must be associated with a unified sequence number, and the  
WRITE requests are therefore serialized or partially serialized by the unified sequence  
number component. Additional direct communications links are provided between the local  
arrays over which a unified data set is distributed both to facilitate WRITE-request  
serialization and to provide a redundant communications paths for added reliability.

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